

The decision Sinclair Broadcasting made to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary just days before the election highlights the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves, our public airwaves, free of charge, and is thus obligated by law to serve the public interest. However when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for business and less of what we need to maintain a healthy democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see the citizens of our own communities and more local news and politics. The actions of Sinclair Broadcasting illustrates why we need to strengthen and reinforce media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. It must involve the public, and truly serve the interest of the citizens of this great democracy. Thank you.